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**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of collaborative voting, comprising:  
5 receiving a request for voter voting information;  
providing the requested voter voting information in  
an anonymous manner such that the identities of  
individual voters are not disclosed; and  
receiving a vote based on the voter voting  
10 information.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a request  
for voter voting information includes receiving a  
selection of one or more voter categories for which voter  
15 voting information is to be provided.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more voter  
categories are based on one or more of age, race, gender,  
income level, occupation, and political party  
20 affiliation.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more voter  
categories are based on demographic information.
- 25 5. The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more voter  
categories are based on voter affiliations with other  
voters.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the voter  
30 affiliations with other voters are identified by a group  
identifier.

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7. The method of claim 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes outputting the voter voting information in a graphical form on a display device.

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8. The method of claim 2, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing voter voting information for each of the one or more voter categories selected.

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9. The method of claim 2, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more voter categories selected.

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10. The method of claim 8, wherein providing the requested voter voting information further includes providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more voter categories selected.

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11. The method of claim 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing a dynamically updated display of the requested voter voting information.

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12. The method of claim 1, wherein providing the requested voter voting information includes providing voter comments entered by voters included in the voter voting information.

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13. The method of claim 1, wherein the request for voter voting information includes a request for voter voting

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information for voters having similar characteristics as a user that submitted the request.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein providing the  
5 requested voter voting information includes:  
    retrieving characteristics for the user; and  
    searching a voter database for voter entries  
corresponding to one or more of the characteristics for  
the user.

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15. The method of claim 13, wherein providing the  
requested voter voting information includes providing a  
ranking of an amount of similarity between other voters'  
characteristics and the user's characteristics.

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16. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a vote  
based on the voter voting information includes receiving  
an indication of whether the vote is permanent or  
non-final.

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17. The method of claim 16, wherein if the vote is  
non-final, the vote may be changed within a predetermined  
period of time from when the vote was received.

25 18. The method of claim 1, wherein the voter voting  
information includes information regarding non-final  
votes and permanent votes cast by voters, and wherein  
providing the voter voting information includes providing  
non-final votes in a format different from permanent  
30 votes.

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19. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing an indication of the vote in association with voter characteristic information of the voter that submitted the vote.

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20. The method of claim 19, wherein storing an indication of the vote further includes storing an indication of the status of the vote as being either non-final or permanent.

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21. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for providing collaborative voting, comprising:

first instructions for receiving a request for voter voting information;

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second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information in an anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed; and

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third instructions for receiving a vote based on the voter voting information.

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22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the first instructions for receiving a request for voter voting information include instructions for receiving a selection of one or more voter categories for which voter voting information is to be provided.

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23. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the one or more voter categories are based on one or more of age, race, gender, income level, occupation, and political party affiliation.

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24. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the one or more voter categories are based on demographic information.

5 25. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the one or more voter categories are based on voter affiliations with other voters.

10 26. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the voter affiliations with other voters are identified by a group identifier.

15 27. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for outputting the voter voting information in a graphical form on a display device.

20 28. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing voter voting information for each of the one or more voter categories selected.

25 29. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more voter categories selected.

30 30. The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter

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voting information further include instructions for providing voter voting information for a combination of the one or more voter categories selected.

5 31. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing a dynamically updated display of the requested voter voting information.

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32. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing voter comments entered by voters included in the voter  
15 voting information.

33. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the request for voter voting information includes a request for voter voting information for voters having  
20 similar characteristics as a user that submitted the request.

34. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter  
25 voting information include:

instructions for retrieving characteristics for the user; and

instructions for searching a voter database for voter entries corresponding to one or more of the  
30 characteristics for the user.

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35. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the second instructions for providing the requested voter voting information include instructions for providing a ranking of an amount of similarity between other voters' characteristics and the user's characteristics.

36. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the third instructions for receiving a vote based on the voter voting information include instructions for receiving an indication of whether the vote is permanent or non-final.

37. The computer program product of claim 36, wherein if the vote is non-final, the vote may be changed within a predetermined period of time from when the vote was received.

38. The computer program product of 21, wherein the voter voting information includes information regarding non-final votes and permanent votes cast by voters, and wherein the second instructions for providing the voter voting information include instructions for providing non-final votes in a format different from permanent votes.

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39. The computer program product of claim 21, further comprising:

fourth instructions for storing an indication of the vote in association with voter characteristic information of the voter that submitted the vote.

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40. The computer program product of claim 39, wherein the fourth instructions for storing an indication of the vote further include instructions for storing an indication of the status of the vote as being either  
5 non-final or permanent.

41. An apparatus for providing collaborative voting, comprising:

means for receiving a request for voter voting  
10 information;  
means for providing the requested voter voting information in an anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed; and  
means for receiving a vote based on the voter voting  
15 information.

42. A method for providing collaborative voting, comprising:

a first interface through which a selection of one  
20 or more voter characteristics is received, wherein a search of voter voting information is performed based on the selection of one or more voter characteristics; and  
a second interface through which results of the search of voter voting information are provided in an  
25 anonymous manner such that the identities of individual voters are not disclosed.

43. The method of claim 42, wherein the first interface includes a field for entering a group identifier as one  
30 of the one or more voter characteristics.



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44. The method of claim 42, wherein the first interface includes a field for selecting an option to find voter voting information for voters have characteristics similar to a user of the first interface.

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45. The method of claim 42, wherein the first interface includes a plurality of fields for selecting the one or more voter characteristics and a plurality of corresponding fields for selecting whether a voter having  
10 a corresponding one of the one or more voter characteristics is to be included in the search results or not included in the search results.

46. The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface  
15 includes a portion for outputting results of the search of voter voting information for each of the one or more selected voter characteristics.

47. The method of claim 46, wherein the second interface  
20 further includes a portion for outputting results of the search of voter voting information for a combination of the one or more selected voter characteristics.

48. The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface  
25 is dynamically updated.

49. The method of claim 42, wherein the second interface includes a field for outputting individual voter profiles of voters included in the results of the search of voter  
30 voting information.

[illegible]

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51. The method of claim 42, further comprising a third interface through which a user may submit a vote, wherein when the user submits the vote, the second interface is updated.